(b) and (c) Ex-Servicemen cannot be resettled as per the prescribed reservations for various reasons, inter-alia:

(i) Reluctance of ex-Servicemen to take up civil employment far from their homes.

(ii) A large percentage of ex-Servicemen are unable to satisfy the various prescribed criteria/ qualifications of the civil jobs reserved for them.

(iii) A limited number of ex-Servicemen are available for absorption against the reserved vacancies in scientific and industrial appointments.

(iv) The reluctance of ex-Servicemen to join Central Police Organisations and Para Military Forces which have a substantial number of vacancies reserved for them.

[*English*]

Appointment of SCs/STs Judges in High Courts

663. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the vacancies of Judges in the different High Courts under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes reservation category, Court-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Appointment of Judges of the High Courts are made in terms of relevant provisions of the Constitution of India which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons.

Irregularities in Punjab and Sind Bank

664. SHRI UDAYSINGHRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Punjab & Sind Bank Ki Sadar Shakha Mein Ek Karod Se Jyada Ka Golmal" appearing in Jansatta dated July 3, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct an inquiry into the matter; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB) advised the Branch Manager, Sadar Branch of Punjab & Sind Bank on 15-5-91 not to make payment of 40 Fixed Deposit Receipts (FDRs) since they were suspected to be in bogus names. However, the Branch Manager released these 40 FDRs aggregating to Rs. 1.02 crores (including interest) on 15th May, 1991 itself. The proceeds were credited by way of Manager's cheques, to the respective Savings Bank Accounts, which were hurriedly opened on 15-5-1991, without complying with the formalities connected with opening of new accounts. The amounts were withdrawn from these S/B accounts on the 16th May, 1991.

(c) Yes, Sir. The branch manager has been suspended and the matter has been taken up by Central Bureau of Investigation.

(d) does not arise.

Export of Basmati Rice

665. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Mi-